

municate in future with that Department. I may add that since that time the grant for the publication of the CHALLENGER results has been administered directly through the Treasury and the Stationery Office; no practical difficulty whatever has arisen from this transfer, as the Treasury accepted without material change the scheme which was already in operation.

Shortly after our return I communicated with naturalists at home and abroad who had given special attention to the different sections of the marine Fauna, and requested their assistance in describing and figuring the newly-discovered species, and in discussing their zoological and palæontological relations, their geographical distribution and any other points of interest in connection with them. In the meantime my friend and fellow-worker Professor Alexander Agassiz joined me in going over the whole collection, and, with the assistance of Mr Murray, we completed the zoological arrangement, which had been roughly attempted on board, and prepared each series so that it might be readily sent to the specialist to whom it was to be intrusted. This preliminary work occupied several months, but towards the close of the first year after the return of the ship, most of the naturalists who had undertaken the description of the more important groups, including, with others, Professor Haeckel, Dr Carpenter, Mr H. B. Brady, Professor Allman, Mr Busk, Dr G. Brady, Mr Davidson, Mr Spence Bate, Professor Huxley, and Mr P. L. Sclater, had gone over the collection in our rooms in Teviot Row, and had got a general idea of its extent and scope.

When the collections of specimens of the different classes into which we had found it convenient to break up the zoological collection was ready for distribution, I printed for the use of the naturalists engaged, a track chart of the voyage; and a list of the observing Stations, giving—

1. The number by which each particular station is referred to throughout.
2. The date.
3. The exact position of the ship at noon of the day on which the observations were made.
4. The depth in fathoms (= 6 English feet).
5. The bottom temperatures.
6. An abbreviation as it is given in the charts, indicating the nature of the bottom.

This list was prefaced by a short statement of the plan of working which it was proposed to adopt; and as these arrangements have as a rule answered their purpose well, I give the preamble almost in full, in the hope of its being found useful for reference on some future occasion. The list of stations, with all necessary details, is given in the Appendix to this introduction.